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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/172,389 | 10/14/1998 | RONALD D. LARSON | 10981013.1 | 9221 |

7590 03/26/2002

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KIMBINH T

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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2671

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

JP

Application/Control Number: 09/172,389

Art Unit: 2671

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Application No.: 09/172389

Art Unit: 2671

The reply brief filed 2/13/02 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Kimbinh Nguyen** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-9683**. The examiner can normally be reached **(Monday- Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM and alternate Fridays from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM)**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman, can be reached at (703) 305-9798.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)


Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Part II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Art Unit: 2671

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Kimbinh Nguyen

March 25, 2002


ULKA J. CHAUHAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER